

REMARKS

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-12, 14-15, 18-19 and 21-22 are canceled herein.

Claims 13, 16, 17 and 20 are "objected to". Therefore, "objected to" claims 13, 16, 17 and 20 are amended herein to be in independent form, and thereby be allowable.

Claims 23 and 24 are allowed.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 13, 16, 17, 20, 23 and 24 are the only pending claims, and should all be allowable.

II. IDS

An IDS was filed on November 18, 2005. The USPTO PAIR System indicates that the IDS was received by the USPTO.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner acknowledge the IDS.

III. CONCLUSION

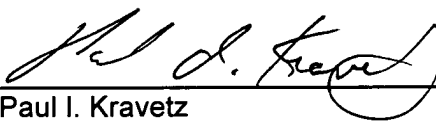
In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

If any further fees are required in connection with the filing of this response, please charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: January 27, 2006

By: 
Paul I. Kravetz
Registration No. 35,230

1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501